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137 shaft, each of said first and second fastening means
8 comprises screw fasteners extending axially along an axis of
9 said driving shaft.

REMARKS

This is in full and timely response to the Office Action mailed December 27, 1994. Reexamination and reconsideration are respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendment and the following remarks.

Claims 6 to 8, 11 to 16, 18, and 20 to 27 were pending at the time of the Office Action. This amendment cancels claims 6 to 8, 15, 16 and 18, and amends claims 11, 14, and 20 to 27. Thus, claims 11 to 14 and 20 to 27 remain for the Examiner's consideration. As requested by the Examiner, all of the pending claims are reproduced in their entirety in this amendment.

Claims 11 to 16, 18, and 20 to 27 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as allegedly being indefinite. Claims 15, 16, and 18 have been canceled and claims 11, 14, and 24 have been amended to overcome this rejection. Specifically, the claims have been rewritten to clarify the meaning of the term "engageable" in claims 11 and 14; to eliminate the term "movable" from claim 11, and to eliminate the term "loosely" from claim 24. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection

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under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, are respectfully requested.

Claims 14 to 16 and 18 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as allegedly being unpatentable over Numata (Japanese Patent Publ. No. 57-058542) alone or in combination with Applicants' alleged prior art admissions on pages 1 and 2 of the specification. Claims 15, 16 and 18 have been canceled by the above amendment. Thus, only the rejection of claim 14 remains at issue.

Claim 14 has been rewritten to incorporate structural language similar to the language of allowable claim 11 to further define over the prior art, as previously applied in the Board decision of January 5, 1994 in the parent application. As amended, the invention of claim 14 clearly would not have been obvious over Numata alone or in combination with Applicants' alleged prior art admissions. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection are respectfully requested.

On page 4 of the Office Action the Examiner indicated that claims 11 to 13 and 20 to 27 would be allowable if amended to overcome the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that all of the remaining claims are now patentable over the prior art of record, and that this case is in condition for allowance. Early issuance of a Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited.

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If the Examiner has any further comments or suggestions that could place this case in even better form, he is encouraged to telephone the undersigned at the number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

By:

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